

GERMANY ASKED AMERICA TO ACT

Suggested That We Take Initiative as to China.

HAY'S NOTE FINDS FAVOR

Effect of Co-operation of Powers Will Be Moral Prop for Chinese Government.

Abundant authority exists for the statement that the Government of the United States took the initiative in an effort to insure the "administrative entity" of China on the suggestion of Germany, that the initiative of the United States has been favorably received by the foreign offices of several of the great European powers, and that the combined influence of these powers will be a strong moral prop for the support of China throughout the current war between Russia and Japan.

"The Temps" of Paris, published as a clause from the note sent by Secretary Hay to the American representatives at the capitals of the powers: "Consult with the government to which you are accredited, with the view of learning if, in order to avoid the possible outbreak of troubles in China and to limit the prejudice of war on neutral commerce, it will not be proper to respect the neutrality of the administrative entity of China."

A reliable news source in St. Petersburg also publishes an extract from the American secretary's note as follows: "proposing joint representation to Russia and Japan in the war operations as far as possible, with a view to preventing disorders in China, which might threaten international trade, and to the preserving of the integrity of China."

Indorsement Expected.

It seems to be accepted by diplomats everywhere that the purposes of this note will be indorsed by all the several governments to which it has been addressed. Those purposes are construed to be the restriction of the combatants to carry on the war in Korea and Manchuria; in other words, to localize the combat to an area so small that China need not be invaded.

At St. Petersburg it is suggested that such project must meet with the support of the Russian government, but the practicability of the proposition is doubted.

In Paris, M. Delcasse, French minister of foreign affairs, has expressed the utmost desire to co-operate with the United States as Secretary Hay has proposed "so long as nothing inimical to Russia is done," the minister thus seizing the opportunity to affirm publicly the close sympathy known to exist between his government and that of the Czar.

Russia is believed, however, to have referred the note to Viceroy Alexieff and the impression prevails that the Czar will be extremely pleased by the proposals from the United States or any other power which would hamper Russia's military operations.

Several replies have already been received by Secretary Hay. Their contents are not disclosed, but it seems to be the general impression that their tenor is favorable.

China to Proclaim Neutrality.

A related dispatch from United States Minister Conger has advised the State Department that China is prepared to proclaim neutrality and will do so as soon as notice is received of the declaration of war by Russia and Japan.

CHINA MAY BE RESTORED TO RULE IN MANCHURIA

Certain diplomats here have raised the question whether China will not have the right, under a general acceptance of Secretary Hay's note, if she does not already possess it, to seize Manchuria by force and prevent the continuance of its occupation by Russia for military purposes, and this without violating in any way her declaration of neutrality.

The facts as set forth by those who incline to believe that China may rightfully do this are that in 1900, the nations which had participated in the Peking campaign signed a convention guaranteeing one another.

Russia would almost certainly refuse

WHERE THE CAMPAIGN IS ON.



Scene of the Operations Along the Korean Coast.

FEATURES AND FACTORS IN THE WAR SITUATION

News From Many Points That Brings Out the Significance of Events and Makes the Story Complete.

As anticipated, Japan is evidently making Chemulpo the base of her land operations in Korea. Troops are being landed rapidly, and in large numbers. It is believed the Japanese land forces will soon move toward the Yalu.

The crews of the Russian ships Varieg and Korietz, destroyed at Chemulpo, are reported to be on board British, Italian, and French ships, which were in the harbor.

The Japanese are sending quantities of newspapers containing reports of their successes into Peking.

BULGARIAN WAR IMMINENT.

The feeling in Constantinople is that war between Turkey and Bulgaria is imminent, by reason of Russia's preoccupation in the Far East. Reports from Austria and from Bulgaria bear out this idea.

The situation in the Balkan peninsula is expected to influence the attitude of some of the great powers toward the Far Eastern situation. It is noted that the interests of Great Britain and France in the near East are harmonious.

ACTIVITY AT HOME IN RUSSIA.

Russia has started her Baltic squadron, consisting of fifteen battleships, to the Far East. Some six weeks will be necessary for the passage. It is reported that an attempt will be made to get the Black Sea fleet out through the Dardanelles.

The Russian minister of finance has issued a communication warning the people against becoming panic-stricken and sacrificing the securities they hold.

Russia may abandon her intended St. Louis exhibit and devote the money thus saved to the Red Cross Society and similar purposes. This would amount to \$25,000.

EVENTS IN THIS COUNTRY.

Word has reached this country from Japan that all Japanese now in America who have been in the naval service of their country are urged to return at once.

Prof. Theodore S. Woolsey, of Yale University, an authority on international law, says that Japan's action in making an attack before a formal declaration of war was neither improper nor treacherous. A declaration of war nowadays is unnecessary.

Authentic news from the Far East is unusually slow in transmission. Cable dispatches from Tokyo to this country, for instance, are now taking between thirty and thirty-six hours.

to comply with any demand from China that Russia withdraw from Manchuria. China might then employ force. This move would be regarded most carefully by the powers who would insist that an imperial army, under thorough discipline and regardful of the rules of war, be sent into the province and that there should be no savor of Boxer troubles to give Russia any excuse for retaining.

It is admitted that the situation in such cases would be most delicate and should not in any way savor of an alliance with Japan, but it is contended that the movement properly conducted would have the moral support, if not the active support, of the remainder of the neutral powers. Six months ago the idea would have been regarded as preposterous, but it is claimed that present conditions make it at least possible. The effect would be practically to cripple Russia by forcing her to withdraw from Manchuria. Her line of railway outside of Siberia would be tied up and present indications are that she would soon lose her naval resources. That, however, says the diplomats, is the risk one runs when he goes to war and violates solemn promises to other nations.

NEUTRALITY OF CHINA DISCUSSED BY CABINET

Secretary Hay's Plan Considered by the President and His Advisors in Session.

At the Cabinet meeting today, the Far Eastern situation was talked over briefly. The neutrality proclamation was touched upon, and also the proposition submitted by Secretary Hay to the powers that the neutrality of China in the Russian-Japanese difficulty be required.

It was said that these matters were only discussed briefly, and that it was not developed whether the Russian government was opposing the proposal of Secretary Hay.

Reference was made to the fact an early vote on the Panama treaty was early assured.

NO. 7 ENGINE COMPANY GIVEN ROUSING WELCOME

Members of No. 7 fire engine company were given a rousing welcome on their return from Baltimore, by the residents of the neighborhood of their headquarters. A supper was given them on the night of their return to Washington, and there were many of their neighbors present to greet them and express their appreciation of the good work they had done.

Among the invited guests were Fire Chief H. H. Fire Marshal Bieber, Assistant Fire Chief Wagner, Attorney George Hoover, Mrs. Hoover, Mrs. Steiner, Miss Cassell, the Misses Hoover, Miss White, and Miss Shreve. They were among the young women who contributed to the entertainment and comfort of the fire engine.

Ever Think

Your trouble might come from . . .

Coffee?

Prove out by change to Postum Food Coffee 10 days. You may learn something worth a farm.

"There's a Reason."

Look for miniature book, "The Road to Wellville," in each package.

RUSSIA HAD TIME TO BE PREPARED

So Says Prominent American Naval Officer.

PRaise FOR TORPEDO BOATS

Experts Studying the Meager Dispatches With Great Interest as Solution of Deep Problem.

"Another example of what happens to a fleet surprised when it is not ready for war," a prominent United States naval officer said, in discussing the Japanese victory at Port Arthur.

"There was excuse for the lack of preparation on the part of the Russians. They have had months and years to prepare, and Japan did not strike until after diplomatic relations had been broken off, and there was every reason to expect an attack at any minute."

"A fleet which was in readiness for action probably would not have suffered as the Russian vessels did at the hands of the Japanese torpedo-boat destroyers. The details of the fight received so far are not sufficient to enable one to understand it thoroughly, but there can be no question that the Russians were taken off guard."

Efficiency Proved.

"Of course, the efficiency of torpedo-boat destroyers is shown by the decisive victory. Nobody can question that. The result will probably be an increased demand for boats of that description. In the war with Spain the United States had no opportunity to give its torpedo-boat destroyers a thorough test. Consequently the idea became current at that time that they were not effective, and the United States built building them."

Naval authorities credit the Japanese officers with great skill and alertness in the Port Arthur fight and say the fact that the Russian vessels were not prepared should not detract from the least from the glory of the Japanese.

Information received so far concerning the naval engagements at Port Arthur and Chemulpo is that the Russian fleet was not surprised, and that the Russian fleet was not taken off guard."

Dispatches announcing that three Japanese torpedo boats were sunk by the Russian fleet in the Port Arthur engagement have not lessened the interest in the opinion of naval officers. They said the first reports of the Port Arthur conflict seemed almost incredible to escape about the first reports of the battle."

"Under cover of darkness torpedo boats are just as likely to escape as they are to be destroyed," said Admiral Taylor, chief of the Bureau of Navigation, in speaking of the Port Arthur engagement. "There was nothing incredible about the first reports of the battle."

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WOMEN NURSES FOR THE ORIENT

Dr. Anita McGee Offers a Corps to the Mikado.

LIKELY TO BE ACCEPTED

Japanese Minister Tells Visitor That the Land of the Rising Sun Is in Need of Nurses.

An president of the Spanish-American War Nurses' Association, Dr. Anita McGee called on Mr. Takahira, the Japanese minister, today, to renew the offer made by her last December to take a corps of trained nurses to the Far East.

She was given an audience by the minister, who received her most cordially.

Cables for instructions. Mr. Takahira gave Dr. McGee to understand that a favorable response would very likely be received. The government, he said, greatly appreciated the offer when it was made last December, but could not consider it at that time, war not having been declared.

As the result of her interview Dr. McGee will at once make preparations to organize her corps for service in the Orient.

Many Applicants. She has kept in her files all the letters of those nurses who wrote volunteering their services. Innumerable applications, she says, have been received, and it will be more difficult to limit the number than to get the volunteers, as the nurses seem particularly eager to go to the Orient. In the association of which Dr. McGee is president there are 600 members, but Dr. McGee says that all nurses who have served in the army may volunteer. She expects to take about one hundred of the most experienced nurses, and their services will be placed at the disposal of the Japanese government.

BIG BILL CONSIDERED BY SENATE COMMITTEE

The subcommittee of the Senate Appropriations Committee on the legislative, executive and judicial appropriation bill was in session today at the Capitol. Progress was made in the reading and consideration of the bill. The subcommittee will meet again tomorrow.

ANNUAL REPORT OF W. A. & MT. V. RAILROAD

The annual report of the Washington, Alexandria and Mount Vernon Railroad has been sent to the Senate, and was laid before that body by President Pro Tem. Frye today.

TRUSTEES' SALES.

THOS. J. OWEN & SONS, Auctioneers, 913 F Street northwest.

TRUSTEES' SALE OF TWO-STORY FRAME DWELLING, No. 341 OAK STREET, N. W.—By virtue of a certain deed of trust duly recorded in Liber No. 233, at folio 113 et seq., one of the land records for the District of Columbia, and at the request of the party secured thereby, we will sell at public auction in front of the premises on TUESDAY, the 22D DAY OF FEBRUARY, 1904, at 2 O'CLOCK, P. M., part of lot numbered three, in block numbered twenty-one, of the Howard University subdivision of John A. Smith's farm, commonly called "Edinburg Place," described as follows: Beginning at a certain deed of trust, said lot fronting on Oak Street, and running thence east 12 1/2 feet, thence north 89 feet, thence west 12 1/2 feet, thence south 60 feet, to place of beginning, with the improvements thereon.

Terms—One-third cash, balance in one and two years, with interest secured by deed of trust on the property sold or all cash at the purchaser's option. A deposit of \$100 required at time of sale. Conveyancing and recording at purchaser's cost. Sale to be closed in ten days.

LUTHER FULLER, HENRY E. BAKER, Trustees.

THOS. J. OWEN & SONS, Auctioneers, 913 F Street northwest.

TRUSTEES' SALE OF VALUABLE THREE-STORY AND BASEMENT BRICK DWELLING, No. 345 HOLMEAD AVENUE, NORTHWEST—By virtue of a certain deed of trust, duly recorded in Liber No. 234, at folio 158 et seq., one of the land records for the District of Columbia, and at the request of the party secured thereby, we will sell at public auction, in front of the premises on TUESDAY, the 17TH DAY OF FEBRUARY, 1904, at 4:30 O'CLOCK, P. M., lot numbered seventy-six (76), of record, in block numbered forty-three (43), Holmead Manor, as said subdivision is recorded in the office of the Surveyor of the District of Columbia, in Liber county No. 11, at folio 46, and situated in the county of Washington, District of Columbia.

Terms—Sold subject to incumbrances of \$5,200; balance cash. A deposit of \$100 required at time of sale. Conveyancing and recording at cost of purchaser. Sale to be closed in ten days.

WILLIAM W. SOUTHER, B. FRANK MEYERS, Trustees.

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DECLINED TO ANSWER; JAILED FOR CONTEMPT

Henry R. Elliott, Lawyer, Committed by Justice for Refusing to Divulge Name of Will-Making Client.

Henry R. Elliott, a member of the bar and a witness in the Galt will case, was today committed to the custody of the Marshal by Justice Wright, presiding in Probate Court. Mr. Elliott is the brother-in-law of Mrs. Marlon V. Elliott, the beneficiary under the will of William W. Galt, which is being contested.

Mr. Elliott was called to the witness stand on Wednesday. A question was propounded to him which he declined to answer, on the ground that it would be divulging the relations between him as an attorney and a client. After having repeatedly declined to answer the question, Justice Wright informed Mr. Elliott that he would give him until today at noon to decide whether or not he would answer the question.

A few minutes after noon today Justice Wright called upon Mr. Elliott to answer. Mr. Elliott again declined to do so, and was ordered committed to jail until he purged himself of the contempt.

While testifying on last Wednesday, Mr. Elliott said that before he had visited William W. Galt, now deceased, he had been taking notes preparatory to drawing a will for a client. On being asked to name the client referred to by him he refused to answer. He said that he had promised the client not to divulge anything concerning the visit or the purpose of it. It was the name of the person which the court demanded of Mr. Elliott should give.

It is said that Mr. Elliott will this afternoon file a petition for a writ of habeas corpus, to procure his release.

While testifying on last Wednesday, Mr. Elliott said that before he had visited William W. Galt, now deceased, he had been taking notes preparatory to drawing a will for a client. On being asked to name the client referred to by him he refused to answer. He said that he had promised the client not to divulge anything concerning the visit or the purpose of it. It was the name of the person which the court demanded of Mr. Elliott should give.

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